UNLOCKING THE DOORS TO A BETTER TOMORROW

2013 ANNUAL REPORT

POLISH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

Resources for Changing Lives
The mission of the Polish American Association, is to serve the diverse needs of the Polish community in the Chicago metro area. As a human service agency, we provide the resources needed to help change lives, and place an emphasis on assisting immigrants during their transition.

WE BELIEVE:

• Each client of the PAA is a unique individual with different concerns and abilities and shall be treated with dignity, respect and trust

• PAA programs and services shall assist in the empowerment of people as individuals so that they may reach their full potential in all aspects of their lives

• PAA programs and services shall be most effective when a holistic approach is taken to individual needs

• PAA shall make every effort to respond to the unmet and well researched needs within the Polish community by providing programs and services not available elsewhere

• PAA shall advocate on behalf of those within the Polish community who may not be able to speak for themselves

• PAA shall foster linkages and collaborative efforts with other human service agencies and also within the extended Polish community, including persons most comfortable speaking either the English or Polish language
Unlocking the Doors to a Better Tomorrow

Over the past 91 years, the Polish American Association has done amazing things! Through our 28 programs and services, we’ve unlocked the door to a better tomorrow and provided the resources for changing lives...

to immigrants
to individuals and families
to children and the elderly
to the hungry and the homeless
to victims of domestic violence and the addicted
to all who come to our doors for help

We stand ready to listen, to help and to offer a holistic, multi-faceted approach to help our clients and their families get through challenging times.

As an agency, we also look forward to a bright tomorrow. One that includes:

Fostering our new young leadership group toward assuming greater roles in the community
Creating an alumni association for graduates of our school based learning programs
New participant funded programs
Developing more strategic partnerships
Meeting the needs of new immigrants as our nation realizes immigration reform
Further reducing our dependence on government funding

We approach our century of service with the same passion and commitment that has marked our 91 years as an agency.

As in the past, we rely on YOU. As you read this report, you will hear the voices of some of our community partners, the over 225 relationships that enable us to meet the needs of the underserved in our community.

We invite you not just to hear their voices but to join us. We have done amazing things together and together will we will unlock even more doors to a better tomorrow.

Conrad Nowak
Chairman of the Board

Gary Kenzer
Executive Director
This year’s Annual Report highlights the partnerships as well as the programs of the PAA. As you will see in the following pages, the PAA’s 28 programs are supported and assisted through the 225 community relationships that help us unlock the doors to a better tomorrow.

Chicago has benefited from the immeasurable economic contributions of its Polish community and from the distinct and vibrant neighborhoods they helped to create. Today, we value the cultural, civic, and economic contributions that the Polish community has made to our city. Whether partnering in the development of the City’s first ever immigrant integration plan, or helping to deliver a small business expo to the Polish community, the Polish American Association has been and will continue to be a valued partner in helping to deliver critical services and information to Poland’s largest community outside of Warsaw.

**Adolfo Hernandez**  
Director, Mayor’s Office of New Americans City of Chicago

The Polish American Association is based on the northwest side of Chicago but its benefits are felt throughout Chicagoland. Every dollar that they take in is in effect multiplied tenfold and directed to benefit those most in need through training, education and social services. They are a model example of what a delegate agency should be.

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The Polish American Association is an Illinois non-profit corporation qualifying for tax-exempt status under section 501c(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Revenues are received in the form of contributions from individuals, businesses and organizations; grants from foundations and corporations; contracts and grants from federal, state and local governments; and fees for program services. The volunteer Board of Directors is responsible for setting policy as well as oversight of the organization’s operations including its finances. Financial statements are prepared monthly, reviewed and approved quarterly and audited on an annual basis. The condensed financial statements for the year (ending June 30, 2013) appearing in this report were derived from audited financial statements. The full audited financial statements are available upon request.

**Kenneth A. Berezewski**
Treasurer, Polish American Association

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**TREASURER’S REPORT**

**EXPENSES** 96.7%
**SUPPORT SERVICES** 3.3%

**TOTAL EXPENSES** $4,966,091
**INCREASE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS** $263,147
**INCREASE IN TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS** $93
**INCREASE IN TOTAL NET ASSETS** $263,240

**Income:**
Government Grants & Contracts 85.9%
Contributions & Special Events 8.3%
Program Service Fees 2.2%
Foundations & Corporations 3.0%
United Way 0.5%
Other 0.1%

**Assets:**
Current Assets $1,699,245
Property & Equipment $847,545
Total Assets $2,546,790

**Liabilities & Net Assets:**
Liabilities $566,996
Unrestricted Net Assets $1,113,347
Temporary Restricted Net Assets $866,447
Total Liabilities & Net Assets $2,546,790

**Revenues:**
Contributions & Special Events $435,422
United Way $25,140
Government Agencies $4,493,860
Corporate & Foundation Grants $157,151
Program Service Fees $113,803
Other Revenue $3,862
Total Liabilities & Net Assets $5,229,238

**Program Services:**
Education $1,562,008
Social Services $1,004,641
Employment $303,694
Homemakers $1,632,326

**Supporting Services:**
Management/Fundraising $329,383
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>CFCs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>CFC of South Central Alaska Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>CFC of Maricopa County CFC of Phoenix of Maricopa County</td>
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<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>Greater Los Angeles CFC Metropolitan Arts Partnership CFC CFC Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties CFC of Sacramento</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>Community Health Charities CFC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>CFC of Delaware</td>
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<tr>
<td>District of Columbia</td>
<td>CFC National Capitol Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>Greater Pensacola CFC CFC of Northeast Florida/ Southeast Georgia Northwest Florida CFC Okaloosa-Walton Counties CFC UW of Brevard County</td>
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<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Central Savannah River Area CFC CFC for Costal Georgia UW of Metropolitan Atlanta CFC CFC of Northeast Florida/ Southeast Georgia Tri-Community CFC</td>
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<td>Hawaii</td>
<td>Hawaii Pacific CFC</td>
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<td>Illinois</td>
<td>AT&amp;T Employee Giving UW Campaign Abbott Fund Lake County CFC</td>
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<td>Indiana</td>
<td>Federated Campaign Stewards</td>
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<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>CFC of Central Louisiana</td>
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<td>Maine</td>
<td>CFC New Hampshire/ Southern Maine CFC</td>
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<td>Maryland</td>
<td>CFC of Central Maryland</td>
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<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>Action for Boston Community Development CFC for Southeastern Massachusetts</td>
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<td>Mississippi</td>
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<td>Missouri</td>
<td>Fort Leonard Wood CFC Gateway CFC Heartland CFC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>CFC of Southern Nevada #0560</td>
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<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>CFC New Hampshire/ Southern Maine CFC</td>
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<td>New Mexico</td>
<td>Sun Country CFC</td>
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<td>New York</td>
<td>UW of Buffalo and Erie County CFC Greater Rome Area CFC North Country CFC Taconic Valley CFC</td>
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<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>CFC Greater NC Area CFC CFC of Onslow/ Camp Lejeune CFC of Southeastern North Carolina</td>
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<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>North Dakota CFC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>UW of the Greater Dayton Area CFC for Greater Cleveland CFC of Central Ohio</td>
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<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>Fort Sill-Lawton CFC CFC of Oklahoma City</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>CFC of Lebanon County Philadelphia Area CFC UW of Wyoming Valley CFC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>Abilene Area CFC Coastal Bend Area CFC UW of the Concho Valley CFC San Antonio Area CFC Gulf Coast CFC Sun Country CFC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>UW of Northern Utah for Utah CFC</td>
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<td>Virginia</td>
<td>Global Impact CFC Overseas CFC of South Hampton Roads UW Thomas Jefferson Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>CFC of Island County CFC of Pierce, Thurston and Lewis Counties</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>CFC of Greater Wisconsin</td>
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</tbody>
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ABM Lakeside, Inc.
A Abiding Care Inc.
Aerotek Commercial Staffing
Advocate Health Center
Alexian Brothers Medical Center
Advanced Specialty Lighting
Amglo Kemlite Laboratories, Inc.
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Mecalux Inc.
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Med-Stop Inc.
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Mid America Bank
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Mondi Inc.
Multy Industries, Inc.
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Resurrection Medical Center
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The Polish American Association is grateful to all of those whose contributions provided the resources needed to change lives. The donors listed in this report made contributions between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013. Due to space limitations, we cannot list donations of $1-$249, but we sincerely appreciate all contributions.

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SOCIAL SERVICES
SUPPORTIVE SERVICES
The Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership (The Partnership) is a proud funder of the Polish American Association (PAA); its dedication and commitment to addressing the needs of a growing population of job seekers, while identifying unique resources, add a level of talent to our community that helps us build a stronger workforce. The Partnership is able to serve more than 140,000 people annually, in part through funding a mosaic network of partners. PAA is one of 48 agencies that partners with us to address the dynamic needs of a diverse population of job seekers and employers. PAA understands the value of partnership working with like agencies and policy makers to leverage resources that better serve the community. The Partnership appreciates the contribution PAA makes to the people of Chicago and feel proud to partner with a strong organization that is making a difference.

Karin M. Norington-Reaves
Chief Executive Officer
Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership

Unlocking the door to a better tomorrow is made possible by good career counseling, decisions, and training. The PAA equips individuals with the tools to pursue successful careers by providing programs and services which enable them to obtain employment. Since 1981, the PAA has successfully placed more than 10,000 individuals in full-time jobs. Since 1991, we have been certified by the Illinois Board of Education as a Private Business and Vocational School. For these individuals, PAA services can help them take the first steps.

Our Employment Services are offered to both job seekers and providers at no charge. We maintain an extensive job bank and have a dedicated staff of job developers.

Additionally, the PAA offers resources on making career and job decisions. Our Career Counseling programs help individuals in their job search through individual guidance as well as seminars. In FY’13 we provided job counseling to over 500 individuals.

The PAA also offers classes for those wanting to enter careers in health care and office administration. In addition to vocational classes in office skills, we have well regarded programs in Certified Nursing Assistant (C.N.A.) and Physical Rehabilitation Aide (P.R.A.) training.

Clients Served:

- Career Counseling
- Vocational Classes
- Employment Placement

29%
14%
57%
The Polish American Association (PAA) is a greatly respected community partner of Wilbur Wright College, one of the City Colleges of Chicago. The success of Wright College depends in great part on strong community collaborations. Wright College values the Polish American Association’s comprehensive support services, particularly immigration services, for the Polish community in the Chicago metro area. The exchange of information and best practices to serve the community effectively and with care is central to our collaboration. Wright College is grateful for PAA’s support for the Reinvention of City Colleges of Chicago as we increase the number of students earning college credentials of economic value.

President David Potash
Wright College
City Colleges of Chicago
4300 N. Narragansett Avenue
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Unlocking the door to a better tomorrow often requires obtaining improved job and language skills. For these individuals, PAA services can provide them with the tools to make that a reality.

The PAA assists immigrants in achieving a better tomorrow by offering English classes, preparation for U.S. Citizenship exams and opportunities for enhancing their job skills. Through these programs and services, individuals are better able to compete within the job market and thus provide financial stability for themselves and their families.

This year, the PAA’s Education and Employment programs provided over 1,000 individuals with courses in English as a Second Language (ESL) classes and literacy programs. We offered computer classes as well as computer resource labs, enabling individuals to develop and improve their computer skills, conduct job searches, create resumes, and use e-mail.

Clients Served:
- English Classes: 41%
- Adult Basic Education: 27%
- Computer Classes: 13%
- Computer Resources Room: 13%
- Citizenship Classes: 6%
Polish American Association has been a strong partner and member of ICIRR. ICIRR values PAA’s work with the New Americans Initiative, the Immigrant Family Resource Program and many of our joint initiatives to bring legislative victories to immigrant families. PAA’s contribution to the Polish American community is indispensable; providing quality, accessible and quintessential programs and services that support the successful integration of countless immigrants into American society. ICIRR is proud to call PAA a member and partner in the advancement of immigrant families and communities.

Rudy Lozano
Uniting America/New Americans Initiative Director
Illinois Coalition For Immigrant & Refugee Rights

Unlocking the door to a better tomorrow is made possible by U.S. Citizenship, by the freedom and opportunity offered by inclusion into the greater American community. For the immigrants who come here, U.S. Citizenship is worth the linguistic and cultural displacements of leaving their home countries. It is the door to a better tomorrow. For these individuals, PAA services can help them take the first steps toward that goal.

The PAA is the only Polish agency accredited by the National Board of Immigration Appeals of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. The PAA Immigration Services staff provides accurate information on citizenship, host immigration workshops, and help streamline the application process. They help clients prepare for the U.S. Citizenship exams, apply for citizenship, adjust immigration status, and complete necessary paperwork to reunite families.

PAA’s Housing Resource Center provides individuals with information and services to enable more Polish immigrants to enter the home-buying market. Trained counselors provide clients with unbiased, bilingual information and counseling necessary to facilitate knowledgeable and thoughtful home-purchasing decisions as well as rudimentary financial advice.

The Housing Resource Center has been also helping clients with problems like: landlord tenant conflict resolution, lock-outs, evictions, security deposits, retaliation, discrimination, gaining access to affordable housing for special needs persons like senior citizens, and persons with disabilities.
Social Services

The Polish American Association (PAA) is the only organization in the Chicago metropolitan area that provides a comprehensive array of bilingual and culturally appropriate social services to the Polish community. Since its inception in 1989, the Coalition of Limited English Speaking Elderly (CLESE) and PAA developed successful partnership serving limited English speaking older adults. CLESE is committed to a vision of equal access to services for all elderly, regardless of ethnicity or language. As a coalition, CLESE works to increase awareness of the needs, rights and unique contributions of limited-English-speaking older adults and the community based organizations that serve them. CLESE is a resource to ethnic agencies by providing assistance and information.

PAA was involved with many of CLESE projects to provide Polish seniors with linguistically and culturally appropriate services such as Alzheimer’s Disease Demonstration Project, Depression Project, Elder Abuse Prevention Program, Medicare Fraud, Tobacco Cessation Project and various health projects. PAA is certified by the IL Department on Aging to provide culturally appropriate home and community based services which are critical to keep seniors at home as along as possible and by the IL Department of Public Health to provide support services at home to patients of all ages after their discharge form the hospital. PAA is a unique organization with proven record of providing highly professional and compassionate direct services for the Polish community.

Marta Pereyra
Executive Director
Coalition of Limited English Speaking Elderly

Unlocking the door to a better tomorrow can depend upon receiving supportive help and counseling. Recent immigrants and their families dealing with the pressures of adjusting to a new culture and language find it particularly difficult. Victims of domestic violence, substance abuse, and depression can feel especially alone and isolated. Youth who are coping with a new environment sometimes need assistance and counseling to navigate. Seniors with diminishing resources and support systems need help to maintain their independence and quality of life. For these individuals, PAA services can offer the necessary help.

During FY 2013, the PAA provided professional support, advice, and assistance to over 3,000 clients through its social services programs. Those programs included crisis intervention; individual and family counseling; counseling and advocacy for victims of domestic violence; partner abuse intervention program; senior services programs; substance abuse treatment and counseling for youth; homemakers program for seniors and people with disabilities; food pantry; clothing closet; emergency energy and rental assistance; outreach and interpretation.

Through these programs, the PAA addressed serious problems affecting the Polish community. By providing holistic, linguistically and culturally sensitive programs and services, the PAA enables its clients to progress beyond an abusive domestic situation, a crippling addiction, and debilitating mental illnesses as depression. For victims of domestic abuse, the PAA offers crisis intervention, information and referral, individual and group counseling, interpretation and translation, assistance in applying for public assistance and other financial resources including medical and legal advocacy. These programs allow the victims and their families to receive the support they need to escape a violent relationship and build a better tomorrow for themselves.

Both young and old find assistance. The Homemaker and Senior services assisted elderly clients by providing compassionate professional care, opportunities for community, and essential health screenings. The PAA also offered programs for youth with counseling, substance abuse, and other services.

Clients Served:

- 30% General Counseling
- 17% Victims of Domestic Violence Counseling/Partner Abuse Intervention
- 10% Substance Abuse for Adults
- 12% Counseling for Teens
- 24% Substance Abuse Youth Program
- 7% Senior Services
The PAA has been instrumental in helping the Cook County Board of Review reach thousands of Polish Americans to provide property tax assessment relief. Over the past two years with the help of the PAA, my office has held town hall meetings targeted to Polish American explaining a very complicated system in English and Polish. PAA’s ability to reach into the Polish community helps us communicate with a vital population in the County, and we could not be successful without the help from your outstanding organization. Thank you.

Michael Cabonargi
Commissioner 2nd District
Cook County Board of Review

Unlocking the door to a better tomorrow sometimes begins with the obtaining of the very basic of necessities: food, adequate shelter, and adequate health care. For those who lack those essentials, self-sufficiency seems impossible when facing the day to day struggle of existence. For these individuals, PAA services can help them take the first steps on that path.

This year, the PAA helped almost 1,000 individuals and families with supplement food through our Food Pantry. Our Turning Point Homeless Shelter offered two daily hot meals, counseling services, and a supportive environment for 77 homeless men, providing them with the resources for changing their lives. Our low-income energy and rental assistance program enabled over 1,000 individuals and their families to maintain adequate housing and utilities.